

4. School Policies

It was noted that the various school policies referred to in the minutes have been dealt with in the Headmaster's Report.

9. Lynch Litigation Loan

The Chairman proposed that as an alternative to drawing on the loan which has now been approved by the State Government, the School could continue to fund the Lynch settlements through the Endowment Fund but pay interest on the amounts withdrawn from the Endowment Fund at the equivalent rate to that which would be charged by the Queensland Treasury Corporation on borrowed funds.

After discussion of this proposal, the Board resolved that it would accept the QTC loan and subsequently complete a review of the Endowment Fund Trust Deed to specifically enable the Board to utilise endowment fund monies for specific purposes such as the settlement of the Lynch matters.

The Chairman suggested that the review of the Endowment Fund Trust Deed should be the responsibility of the Finance Committee. Mr Crommelin suggested that, as part of the review of the Trust Deed, the Board should have the power to draw money received as confirmation fees only, with amounts specifically donated to the Endowment Fund being preserved at all times.

H. OTHER

(a) Child Protection Policy

This document has been reviewed and revised by the Chairman, Headmaster and School solicitors since the June Board Meeting.

A new Policy is attached (C) for consideration and endorsement by the Board. A background letter of advice from Mr David Abernethy (dated 1 August 2003) is also included, together with three existing Policy documents that are referenced within the new Child Protection Policy.

This Policy must be in place for the School to be able to apply for Accreditation of the Middle School by the Office of Non-State Schooling. The Middle School has operated in 2003 under a one-year initial Provisional Accreditation, but that must now be confirmed and the paperwork to commence this process needs to be completed immediately after the August Board Meeting.

The Board resolved to approve the Policy document attached to the Headmaster's Report for implementation.

(b) Counselling Practices and Procedures Policy:

This new policy was tabled for consideration at the June Board meeting and was referred for further scrutiny by the incoming Board at the August meeting. It is therefore included again in the Attachments to this report (D) and Board endorsement is sought.

The Board resolved to approve the Counselling Policy included in the Headmaster's Report as Attachment (D), subject to a final review of that Policy by the Chairman.

